

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Military Information from Gera		25X1
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		2 February 1953	
REFERENCES			25X1
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			
This is UNEVALUATED Information			

1. Prior to 10 January 1953, the Reuss Kaserne in Gera was, as previously, occupied to capacity by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. At about 10:30 a.m. on 21 December, 25 details of 50 to 60 soldiers each marched from the gymnasium to the quarters. The quarters were fully lighted after nightfall. On 30 December, about 100 troops drilled in the barracks yard. Between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on 1 January, about 150 troops received instruction on 8 x 100-mm AT guns, which were attached to 8 prime movers. Another unit of 80 to 100 soldiers drilled. About 80 troops were in the barracks yard and not engaged in any duty. Two trucks were seen at driving practice at an obstacle course. On 8 January, about 80 soldiers were drilling. Several AT guns were seen through the open doors of the garages. The guns were of a light caliber. Trucks were seen in the installation several times. these vehicles belonged to the former motor pool on Wiesen Strasse which, on 20 December, had been deactivated and had been occupied by VPs. 1

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2. The detail of about 150 troops previously stationed in the Panzer Kaserne in Tinz, was transferred before 25 December. Subsequently, the installation had been occupied by about 250 soldiers who also occupied the second barracks building which had been reconditioned. Between 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. on 26 December, about 100 troops received individual training with rifles. On 30 December, 10 groups, of 15 to 20 soldiers each, received field training and, on 31 December, 6 groups were at field training with rifles. sentries with red-bordered black epaulets without branch of service insignia. Trucks were seen en route to the installation. The komendatura was located on Ebeling Strasse as previously.

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3. Prior to 27 December, the Reuss Kaserne in Gera was occupied by an estimated 2,600 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, motor transport and AT insignia, and by about 200 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets. At 9:30 a.m. on 21 December, about 2,200 troops were lined up in the barracks yard to hear a speech by an officer. At 11:30 a.m. on 27 December, about 200 soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets entered the installation. On 24 December, about 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery, motor transport and AT insignia, were seen receiving field training and training in firing on Galgenberg and Steinertsberg (hills) and on Dornaer Landstrasse.

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4. From 29 to 31 December, trucks [redacted] hauled briquettes from the freight station to the Panzer Kaserne in Tinz. On 2 January, 10 groups each consisting of 1 officer and 10 EM were seen training with rifles and range finders and aiming practice with pistols and rifles near the installation. From 4 to 10 January, similar groups were daily seen at field training and training with weapons. The EM wore red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia. At about 3 p.m. on 8 January, trucks [redacted] occupied by 10 officers with tank insignia and 6 EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and loaded with baggage went to the station. The trucks returned empty. Ambulance [redacted] and truck [redacted] were seen en route to the installation.

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5. On 10 December, 9 prime movers, [redacted] trucks [redacted] 1 boxcarload of equipment and about 30 officers and EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets were loaded on 11 flatcars with sideracks and 1 boxcar. Troops and materiel came from the Reuss Kaserne. The train left at 1:24 p.m. toward Leipzig-Flagwitz. 4

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1. [redacted] Comment. According to a previous report [redacted] the motor pool at 107 Wiesen Strasse, on 7 December 1952, was still occupied by the small detail wearing black-bordered black epaulets. [redacted] The occupation of this installation by VPs is reported for the first time.

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2. [redacted] Comment. The Reuss Kaserne appears to be occupied as previously by all the elements of the 308th Arty Brig (US) of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps. In addition to the brigade, a guard unit of about 200 men wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets may also be stationed there.

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3. [redacted] Comment. The assumption that a repair shop unit from Glauchau had been transferred to the barracks installation in Gera-Tinz in early December 1952 is only an assumption. However, the motor vehicles observed at this installation were previously reported from Glauchau, but the activities of the unit stationed in the barracks installation Gera-Tinz do not indicate a repair shop. The unit concerned may be an instruction unit.

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4. [redacted] Comment. The shipment of a unit of the 308th Arty Brig (US) toward Leipzig-Flagwitz, that is in a northern direction, may have gone to the Altengrabow troop training grounds for firing practice.

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